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required to state only whether they belong to the Backward or Scheduled Classes, or not. Hence information regarding the number of Muslim candidates who applied for selection and who were selected for admission during 1954–55 is not available. Except Labbais and Mappillas Muslims as a whole do not come under the category of Backward Classes. It is considered that the time and labour involved in the collection of the particulars required will not be worthwhile.''

SRI K. M. SEETHI SAHIB :—'' May I know, Sir, whether the Constitution or the precedents of the High Courts precludes or prevents the collection of statistics in respect of candidates who apply for admission to the Medical Colleges with reference to the community and religion to which they belong? ''

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—'' Sir, reservation is made only for Scheduled Castes and Tribes and for the Backward Classes. So it is considered unnecessary to state in the application form the religion, the caste or the community to which the candidates belong.''

Extension of power supply in Tiruchirappalli district.

* 96 *Q.*—SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number and names of schemes, if any, in Tiruchirappalli district requiring the installation of thermal sets of sizes ranging from 500 K.W. to 2,500 K.W. recommended by the Government to Planning Commission in pursuance of the Commission's letter No. PC (VI)L(E)/1-5-54, dated 23rd March 1954, regarding power facilities;

(*b*) the number and names of schemes, if any, in Tiruchirappalli district requiring the extension of transmission and distribution lines from existing sources of supply recommended by Government in the same connection;

(*c*) the extent of loan required from the Central Government for the schemes mentioned in clauses (*a*) and (*b*);

(*d*) whether the Government have advanced any loan to the South Madras Electric Supply Corporation, Limited, Tiruchirappalli, on the basis of assistance made available by the Central Government for utilising power for irrigation purposes, pumping, etc., in rural areas in Tiruchirappalli district; and

(*e*) if so, the amount of the loan?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—'' (*a*) There are no such schemes in this State.

'' (*b*) The scheme for changeover of the Erode-Tiruchirappalli third circuit line to 110 K.V. operation under which considerable additional power can be made available for distribution in Tiruchirappalli district and another general scheme for distribution of power over the entire State, including extension

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of supply to the ten villages of Achamapuram, Vettamangalam, Melapalayam, Nenur, Sendamangalam, Koyampalli, Pugalur, Uppidamanpalayam, Puliyur and Kadambankurichi in the Karur taluk of the Tiruchirappalli district, have been recommended to the Planning Commission.

" (c) Rs. 18·26 lakhs for the Erode-Tiruchirappalli Third Circuit 110 K.V. changeover and Rs. 6·68 lakhs for the extension schemes in Karur taluk.

" (d) & (e) The question will be considered after the loan assistance applied for by this Government for grant of loan to licensees has been made available by the Central Government."

SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR :—" May I know, Sir, whether there is any scheme now pending before the Government suggested or submitted by the Tiruchirappalli Electric Supply Corporation, Limited, regarding the extension of services to rural areas?"

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Sir, the schemes have to be taken up only when the loans could be provided and that is dependent upon the Centre giving us the loan."

SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—" Sir, எந்தெந்த மின்சாரக் கம்பெனிகளை எந்தெந்த ஆண்டுகளில் அரசாங்கம் தேசியமயமாக்கி எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப்போகிறார்கள் என்பதைப்பற்றி சென்ற பட்ஜெட் பிரசங்கத்திலே மந்திரி அவர்கள் தெரிவித்திருக்கிறார். திருச்சிராப்பள்ளியில் தனிப்பட்ட கம்பெனி மின்சார விநியோகத்தைச் செய்துவருகிறது. அதற்கு முதலீடு போதாமையினால் கிராமங்களுக்கு மின்சாரம் விஸ்தரிக்கப்பட முடியாது. ஆகையால், ஒன்று இதைச் சர்க்காரே எடுத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டும்; அல்லது கம்பெனிகளுக்காவது பண உதவி செய்து, கிராமங்களுக்கு மின்சாரத்தை விஸ்தரிப்பதற்கான ஏற்பாடுகளைச் செய்யவேண்டும்."

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" That is exactly what I said. We are waiting to get the loan from the Centre which will be made available to the companies for spreading electricity in the rural areas."

SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" May I know, Sir, whether any scheme for extension of electricity to rural areas in Udayarpalayam taluk has been sanctioned for execution with the Central Government's subsidy under the recently projected schemes?"

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" There is no subsidy as such I know of. We have only asked for a loan from the Centre and that is awaited. Once it comes, all these things can be considered."

Hunger-strike in Cannanore Jail.

* 97 *Q*.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that in the second week of July 1954, some convicted prisoners in the Cannanore Jail went on hunger-strike;